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The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence  
Washington, D. C. 20505

08 JUL 1983

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Executive Steering Group for the Dr. Davis  
Computer Security Project

SUBJECT: Summary of First Steering Group Meeting

1. Your comments and suggestions at our first meeting on 27 June 1983 regarding the proposed tasks identified by Ruth Davis and her project team are most appreciated. The tasks that we have agreed to are complex, but there is a sense of urgency about getting on with this project. [redacted]

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2. We have changed the name of the project back to the Computer Security (COMPSEC) project to reflect the major element of the effort. The scope of the project includes more than just computer security, as reflected in paragraph 3 below. The COMPSEC project should not be confused with or perceived as being in competition with the various computer security efforts ongoing within the Intelligence Community [(e.g., the DoD Computer Security Evaluation Center (CSEC))]. [redacted]

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3. Ruth will incorporate your recommendations into her revised project plans. Based on the comments provided at the meeting, the scope of the effort (Issue 1) will be bounded as follows:

- o Exclude stand-alone word processors (initially)
- o Exclude single-user systems such as remote sensing equipment
- o Include computer systems and telecommunications systems utilizing computers that serve multiple users
- o Initially include those automated systems processing sensitive compartmented intelligence (SCI) and automated systems processing collateral intelligence information that could compromise sensitive methods and sources (e.g., clandestine HUMINT reports from CIA/DDO or SIGINT sensitive reports)

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- o Exclude US Government systems processing collateral intelligence other than that noted in the preceding bullet

4. Our near-term goal is to identify known or suspected vulnerabilities, assess the risk to sensitive operating systems, establish a sense of criticality for developing and applying procedural and hardware safeguards, and by doing so assure ourselves that the methods and sources as well as the intelligence itself are properly protected while supporting all vital operations.

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5. In regard to issue 5, the proposed redefinition of minimum standards to "safeguards for reducing critical vulnerabilities" is accepted and the task statement will be adjusted accordingly.

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6. The task of identifying "critical systems" will require your personal attention due to the sensitivity of the topic within the National Security arena and the implications to our positive intelligence activities. Please provide to me by 13 July 1983 a candidate list of systems for our joint review and discussion. After our review those few systems identified and designated as critical will be assigned to the appropriate COMPSEC working group.

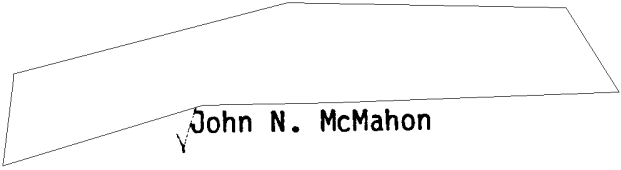
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7. We may need more than the time planned to complete several of the proposed efforts, but we should push forward. Ruth will let us know how much more time she may need when we review the next progress report in July.

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8. Your active participation and personal support in this important effort is appreciated.

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John N. McMahon

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